

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 16-554 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/US04/33445	International filing date (day/month/year) 08 October 2004 (08.10.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 09 October 2003 (09.10.2003)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC: B30B 1/34 (2007.01), 13/00 (2007.01) USPC: 100/35,199,216,269.03,269.06,269.08,269.09,269.1,269.14;72/453.06,453.07,453.08			
Applicant THE COE MANUFACTURING COMPANY			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☐ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of ___ sheets, as follows:

☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

☒ Box No. I Basis of the report

☐ Box No. II Priority

☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited

☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand

09 June 2005 (09.06.2005)

Date of completion of this report

24 November 2006 (24.11.2006)

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Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet)(April 2005)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/US04/33445

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:

- ☐ the international application in the language in which it was filed.
- ☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

- ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-14 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* NONE _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* NONE _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- pages 15-19 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* NONE _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* NONE _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* NONE _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages 1/6-6/6 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* NONE _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* NONE _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages NONE _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. NONE _____
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/figs NONE _____
- ☒ the sequence listing (specify): NONE _____
- ☒ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): NONE _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/US04/33445**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-8, 12-13, and 16-23</u>	YES
	Claims <u>9-11 and 14-15</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1-8, 12-13 and 16-23</u>	YES
	Claims <u>9-11 and 14-15</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-23</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and Explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 9-11 and 14-15 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Rauf et al. (US 6,253,672).

Regarding claim 9, Rauf discloses a method for operating a platen press, the platen including a fixed bolster (2b), a movable bolster (2a), at least one platen (3) position between said bolsters and at least one jack cylinder (4a) and one main cylinder (4b) operatively connected to said movable bolster, comprising the steps of:

a) communicating pressurized fluid at a first pressure from a first source (P4) to said jack cylinder(4a) while concurrently communicating pressurized fluid at a second pressure, from a second source (P2) to said main cylinder (4b) (col. 2, lines 60-67), during the press closing cycle;

b) upon press closure, communicating pressurized fluid from said first source (via (18)) to said main cylinder in order to generate a clamping force on said platen (col. 2, line 63- col. 2, line 2);

c) communicating said jack cylinder and said main cylinder to respective charge conduits in order to permit opening of said platen press during a press opening step (col. 3, lines 3-10).

Regarding claim 10, Rauf discloses a step of energizing a pump (15) and communicating the output of the pump with said jack cylinder (col. 2, lines 37-44).

Regarding claim 11, Rauf discloses the communication of a stored source of pressurized fluid (7) with said jack cylinder.

Regarding claim 14, Rauf discloses the communication of an accumulator (5) containing stored pressurized fluid with said main cylinder (4b) (fig. 1).

Regarding claim 15, Rauf discloses the bolster is moved to its open position by communicating the jack and main cylinders with a fluid reservoir (18), and the weight of the movable bolster inherently urges the movable bolster to its open position after the fluid in the jack and main cylinders decompressed back into the accumulator (col. 3, lines 3-10).

Claims 1-8, and 16-23 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a platen press having a control valving communicated the first source of pressurized fluid with the main cylinder during a clamping step while terminating the communication of the second source of pressurized fluid with the main cylinder.

Claim 12 meets the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a method for operating a platen press having a step of activating a high volume centrifugal pump and connecting its output to the main cylinder.

Claim 13 meets the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a method for operating a platen press wherein a step of communicating the second source of pressurized fluid comprises a step of activating a positive placement pump in order to operate a flow intensifier, the output of which is connected to the main cylinder.

Claims 1-23 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.